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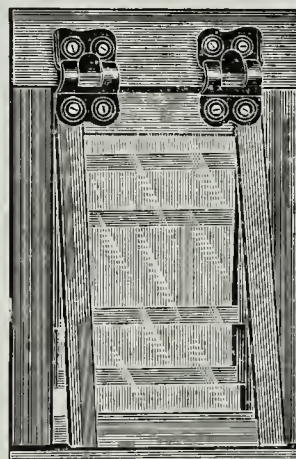
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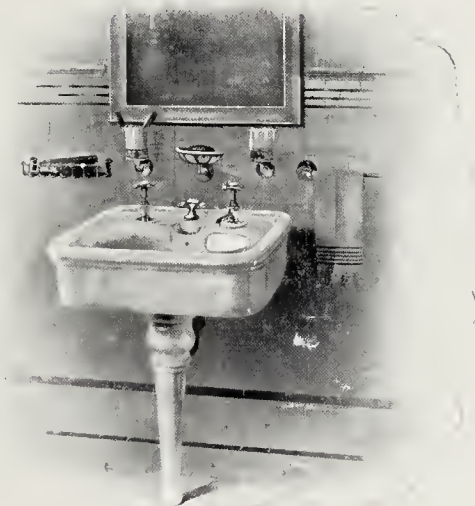
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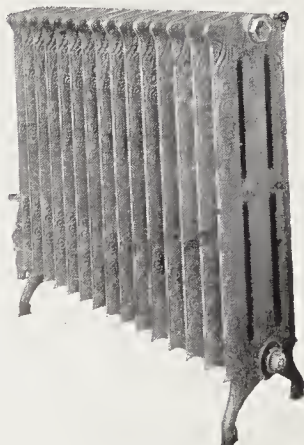
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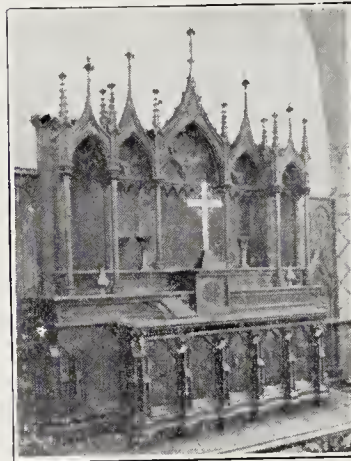
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AN EXCELLENT RECORD.

In talking with the Messrs. Carpenter of the Union Railway Storage Company, Minneapolis, we became rather impressed with their emphatic statements as to the quality, durability, etc., of the Wolverine Portland Cement. They having had the agency for this brand for the past five years, and have sold it for all classes of work, and largely under specifications that required careful tests before it could be used, and during all of that time they have not had one car or even a barrel rejected. This is an unusual record, but they seem to have the documents to prove it.

The manufacturers of this brand of cement are very careful in their process and say that they will not allow any cement to leave their mill that is not absolutely all right. This together with their record puts their cement in a class that is strictly high-grade Portland cement.

There are very few brands of Portland cement manufactured in this country that can show the same record as the Wolverine in this respect.

The Union Railway Storage Company are also agents for the Atlantic Terra Cotta Company of New York, who have one of the largest and best equipped plants in the United States for producing architectural terra cotta. These agencies together with numerous others that this company have for lime, fire brick, sewer pipe, wall coping, flue lining, etc., puts them in position to handle a large line of business in the mason's material line, and they are looking for a large increase in business for the coming season, being equipped to handle any and all business that comes along promptly and satisfactorily at all times.

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The Union Fibre Co. of Winona, Minnesota, realizing the situation keenly, have invented and recently placed on the market a material known as "Linofelt," made from Minnesota flax fibre, which is said to have 123 per cent greater efficiency in keeping out the cold than any material heretofore known to commerce, can be applied like ordinary building paper, and which they guarantee has an equal efficiency to 38 layers of regular building paper in insulating houses against cold. This material is only one-fourth inch thick and will not interfere with regular construction of building. We are glad to publish this fact and wish the makers "God speed" in their worthy undertaking.

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 Who never to himself has said:
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 I'll try another ten-inch ad?"
 If such there be, go mark him well,
 For him no bank account shall swell,
 No angel watch the golden stair
 To welcome home a millionaire.
 The man who never asks for trade
 By local lines or ad. displayed
 Cares more for rest than worldly gain,
 And patronage but gives him pain.
 Tread lightly, friends; let no rude sound
 Disturb his solitude profound;
 Here let him live in calm repose,
 Unsought except by men he owes;
 And when he dies go plant him deep,
 That naught may break his dreamless sleep;
 Where no rude clamor may dispel
 The quiet that he loved so well,
 And that the world may know its loss,
 Place on his grave a wreath of moss,
 And on a stone above, "Here lies
 A chump who wouldn't advertise."

THE WHITE ENAMEL REFRIGERATOR.

Minneapolis and St. Paul possess several noteworthy manufacturing establishments in every line of industry, and many of the plants are the most elaborate and extensive of their kind in the country. But it is the concensus of opinion, both locally and among visitors of the Twin Cities, that the location and general attractiveness as well as the unique appearance of the home of the White Enamel Refrigerator Company has no equal anywhere. It is emphatically the "show place" on the through Interurban Electric line between the commercial centers of St. Paul and Minneapolis, and the management of the concern is entitled to the praises bestowed daily upon the attractiveness of the plant and its location.

The buildings and grounds cover twenty-three acres, fronting on University Avenue, St. Paul, and the well-kept lawns intensify the pure white of the structures which in themselves suggest the "White Enamel."

While fine feathers always make fine birds, yet in this instance the attractiveness of the plant is certainly producing a popular effect, and there is much appreciation of the fact that the company, with its Bohn's Patent Syphon Refrigerators, received the very highest award at the St. Louis fair.

In the construction of the refrigerators, the company is actually extravagant in its determination that none but the best materials shall be used; but the result is happiness itself to the householder.

The reader will understand the plan of the "Bohn patent," when told that the cold air in the refrigerator passes through a galvanized iron grating in the bottom of the ice chamber and into the provision chamber, rising through the openings provided in shelves, and is drawn back through the syphons into the ice chamber and through and around the ice, whereby all vapors and odors given off provisions are condensed and deodorized; thus leaving all impurities to pass off through the drip pipe with the melted ice, and the pure, dry air returns to the provision chamber. The result is that any certain article of food cannot taint any other article in a Bohn refrigerator.

It is the policy of the company to do whatever it undertakes in the best possible manner; and one of the results is that the latest catalogue issued (No. 7), is one of the most artistic that has ever come to the desk of the Western Architect. The catalogue contains so much information which is of importance to those who would maintain hygienic conditions in the home, that it should be in every household. It may be had upon application to the White Enamel Refrigerator Co., St. Paul, Minn.

NOTICE.

The Bureau of Buildings of the Borough of Manhattan has adopted a rule that all elevator cars shall have a device attached thereto, whereby in case of accident, the car shall be stopped without injury to the passengers.

It being a physical law that a person of average physique cannot be stopped in a distance less than he fell without possible injury; this rule therefore also specifies that said devices shall maintain this distance in stopping an elevator car.

This rule also orders that said devices shall have ample power to stop any load that the car can raise, not only once, but always, and independently of any possible wear or adjustment, the neglect of which would make the safety inoperative.

The bureau of Buildings of the Borough of Manhattan, the Bureau of Building Inspection of the City of Philadelphia, the Engineers of the U. S. Government, Elevator Insurance Companies, and all who use it, find that the Pratt Safety conforms to this rule perfectly in every detail.

"Kearsarge" Gasket Tubing is a recent addition to the well known list of "Kearsarge" Packings, manufactured by the H. W. Johns-Manville Co., 100 William street, New York, which will fill a long felt want. Gasket tubing is especially desirable for certain conditions, is easy of application, efficient and an article in which all engineers should be interested.

The same company is also furnishing Kearsarge Ring Packing, a new form of their well known coil packing. These rings can be furnished in any size and quantity, and the high standard of efficiency of their entire line of packing is maintained in this new product. Samples and printed matter may be obtained from the company's offices in New York, Milwaukee, Chicago, St. Louis, Boston, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Cleveland and New Orleans.

FAB-RI-KO-NA.

Mr. H. S. Quillin, manager of the advertising department of the H. B. Wiggin's Sons Company, manufacturers of the Fab-Ri-Ko-Na products, with Mr. H. M. Freeman, represented this company at the International convention of the Master House Painters and Decorators held last month at Milwaukee, Wis., and they report that it was the greatest convention ever held in the history of the association, exceeding all others in attendance, in the interest displayed in the convention sessions and in the extensive variety of exhibits displayed in the hall set apart for the supply men.

Fab-Ri-Ko-Na had a booth and was well represented and it was especially fortunate to have Mr. Edward Mayhew, the New York artist, demonstrate the use of his modern stencils on the Fab-Ri-Ko-Na Woven Wall Coverings with the Ko-Na Colors, which are manufactured by the H. B. Wiggin's Sons Company of Bloomfield, N. J.

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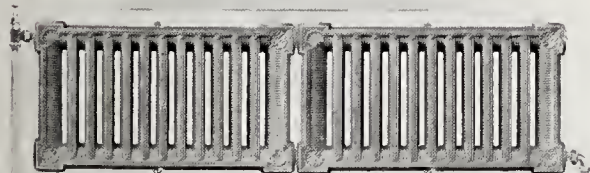
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Ferric and Heliographic Processes is the title of a little work by Geo. E. Brown, published by Tennant and Ward, 287 Fourth avenue, New York. Second edition, cloth, pp. 145, price \$1.00, describing blue printing and kindred processes, Kallitype, tri-color, Obernetter, Uranotype, etc. It is a text book of the whole subject, well illustrated, with full directions and formulæ calculated to meet the wants of people who are worrying over the whys and hows to be met with in making these simple photographs.

Richey's Handbook of Construction, just issued by John Wiley and Sons, New York, must take front rank among works of the sort, once it becomes known among architects and superintendents. Binding, paper and presswork is such as we have been taught to expect from this house. The material selected for the 700 pages is exceptional in range and usefulness. The book, while covering more and more useful subjects than any of its competitors is kept within reasonable size by a judicious weeding out process. Some idea of its completeness may be formed by its index of 46 pages with perhaps 10 or 12 hundred subjects. The book is mainly a compilation—probably no more or less so than others of the class—and is brought well down to date, as for instance in its illustrating a score or so of leading reinforced concrete systems. Where doctors differ, this author sides with the conservatives, as in the strength of beams, which is reckoned quite a bit lower than in many western building ordinances. In one unimportant table purporting to give the shrinkage of different kinds of wood he however errs on the wrong side. Not only does this table show less shrinkage than occurs in woods, but it does not give the very marked difference in shrinkage between the "quarter" and the "slash" cut, which in several specimens tried by the reviewer is very marked.

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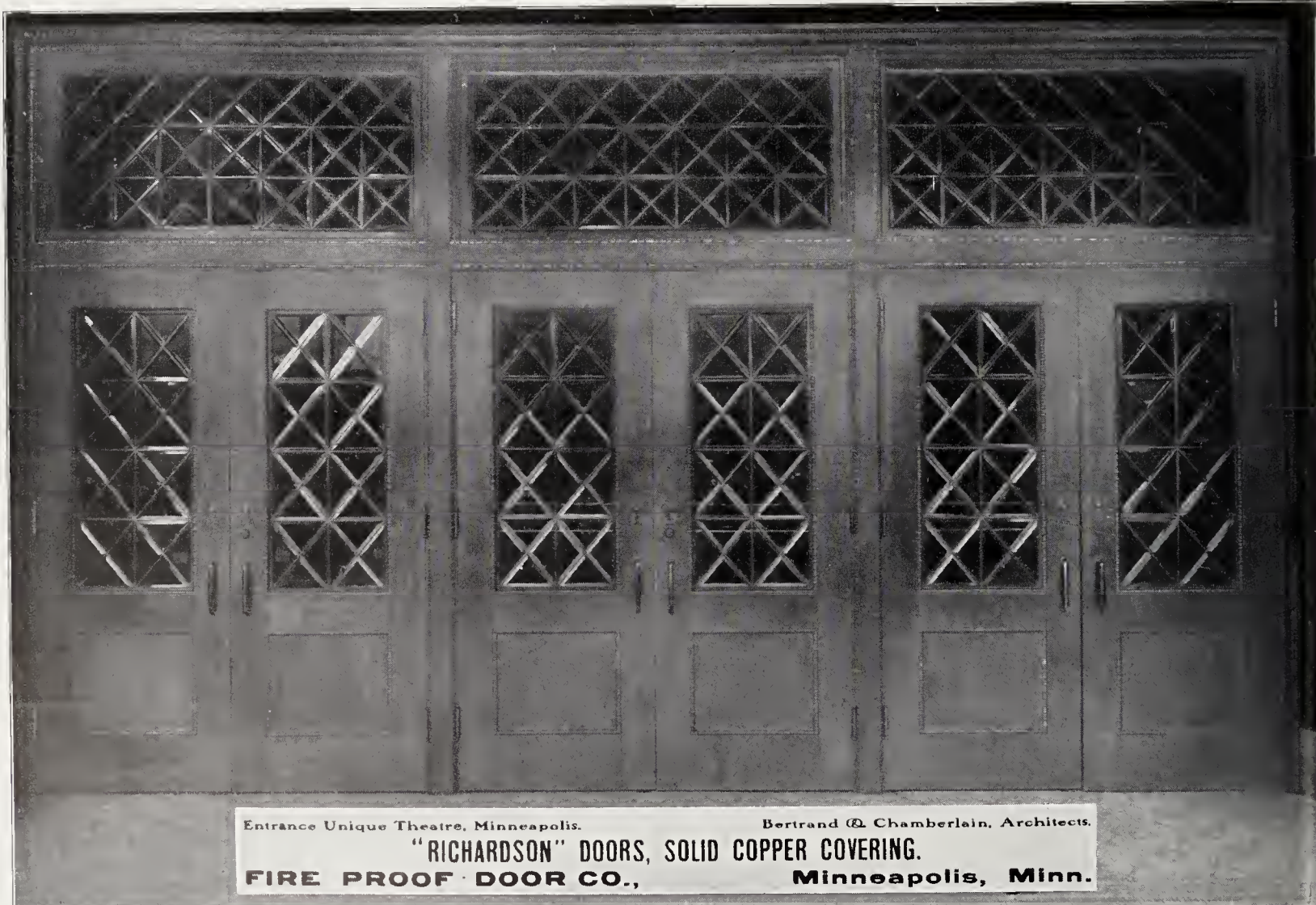
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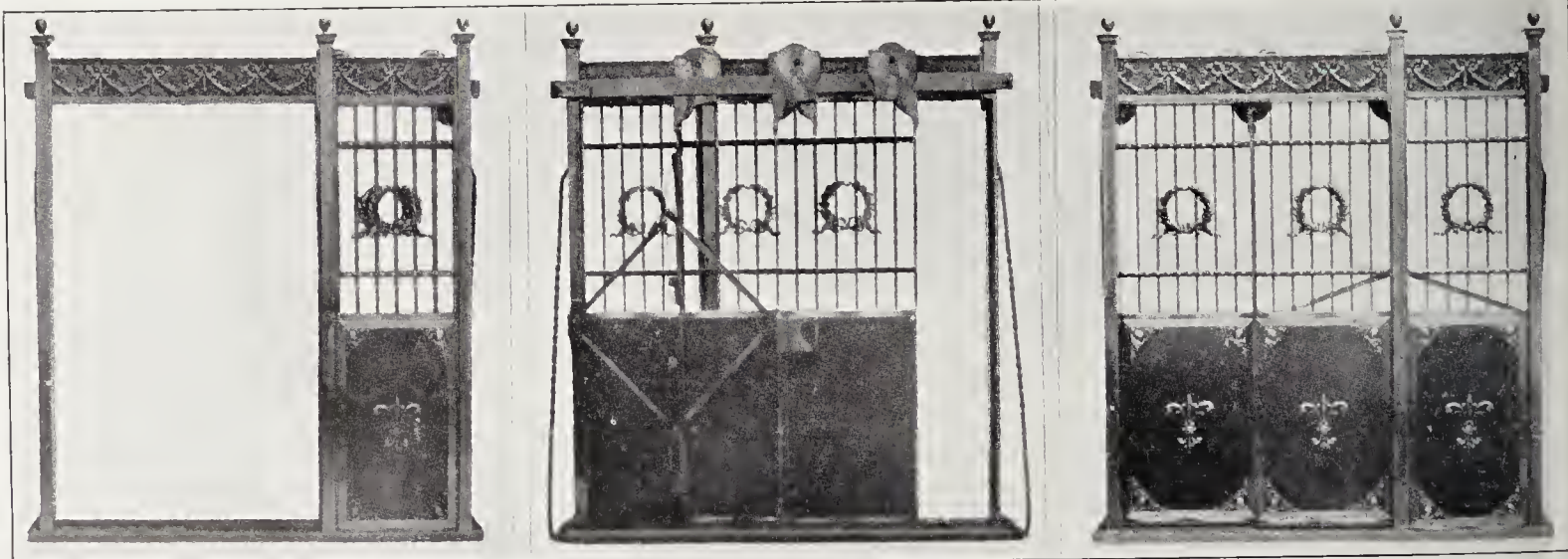
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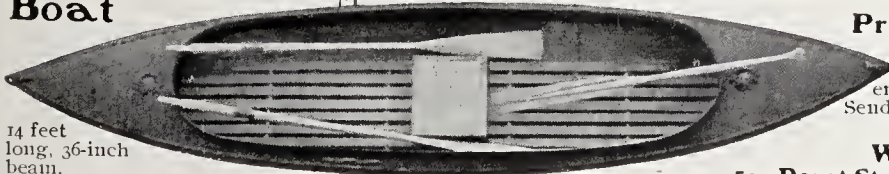
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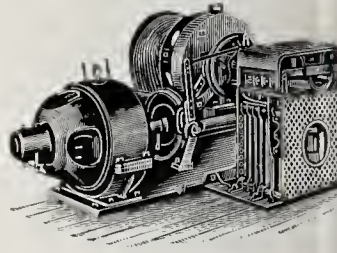


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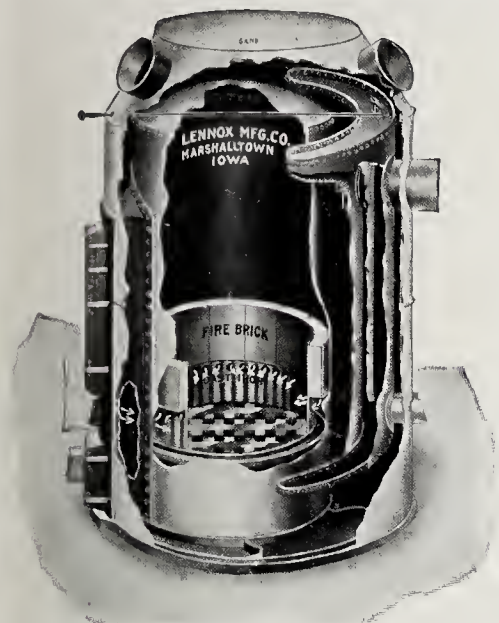
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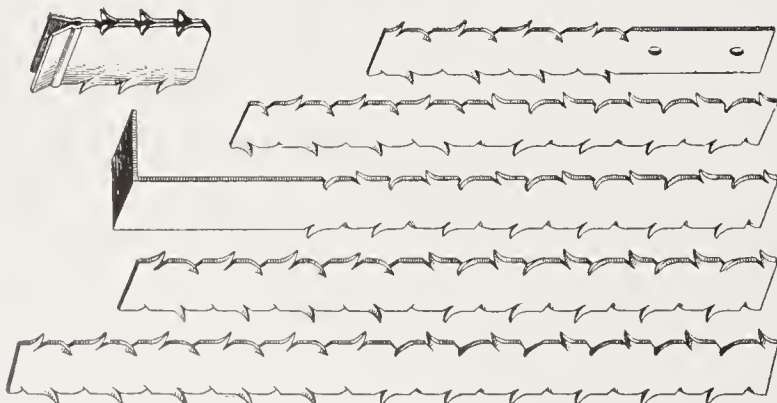
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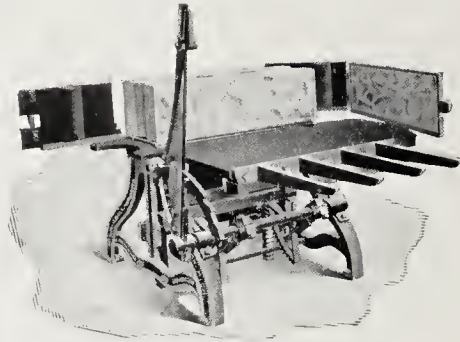
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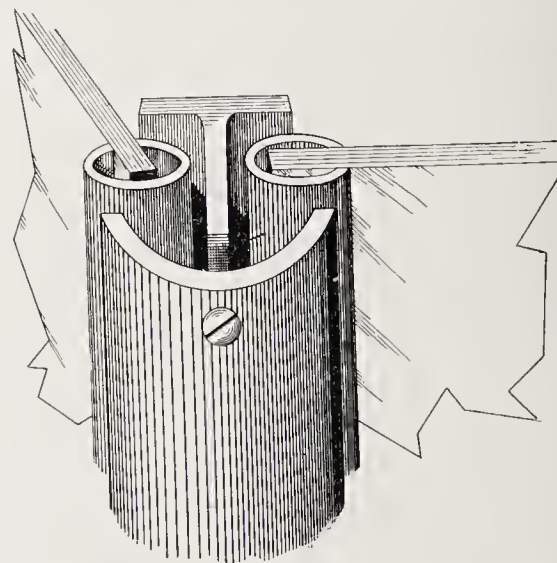
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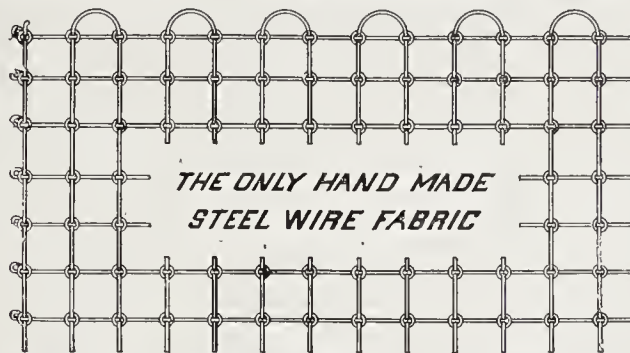
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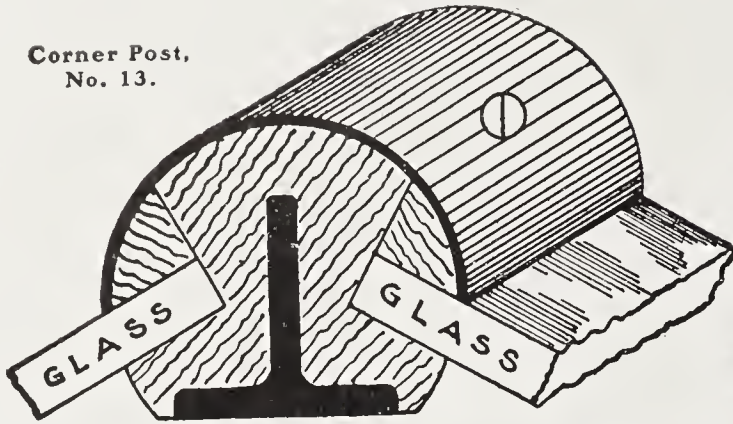
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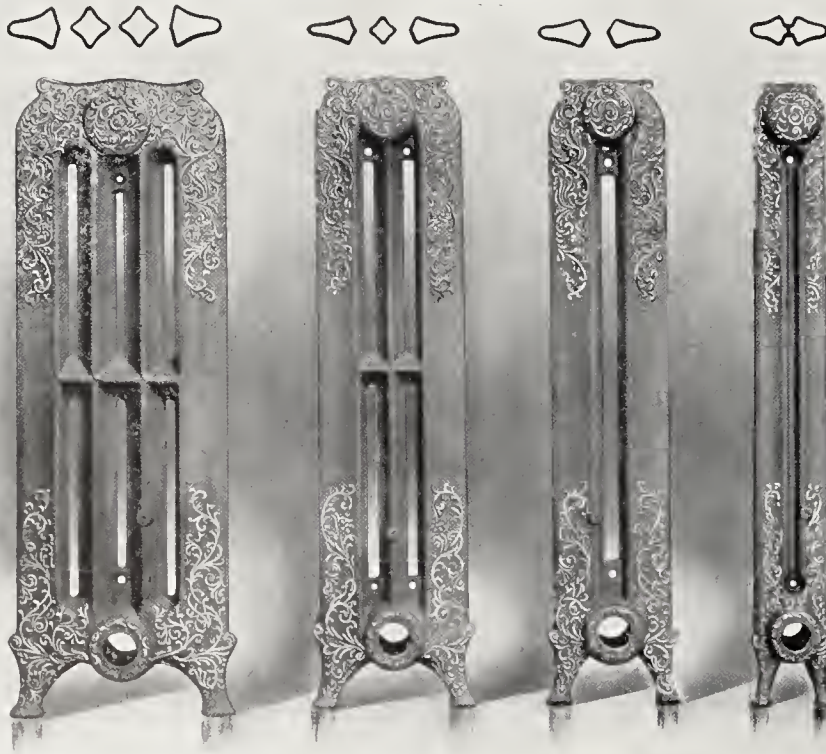
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DEVOTED TO ARCHITECTURE AND ALLIED ARTS

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WITH fire losses of some \$250,000,000 in the United States and Canada for 1904—nearly twice the average for the decade preceding—there will naturally be something doing in the building line this year. Not only will much more than the usual amount of work be needed to replace the losses, but it looks as if many owners who escaped will bestir themselves to reduce their fire risks, making it easy to sell sprinklers, fire-proof windows, and such things.



THE National Board of Fire Underwriters, composed of 120 leading companies doing business in the United States is, in view of the enormous fire losses of the year past, bestirring itself anew to secure more rational building, better fire service, water supplies, etc. It has decided upon a committee of 20 charged with the special duty of organizing an Engineering Department to investigate conditions and make recommendations for improvements. Accordingly there are already four parties in the field in as many different cities gathering data for reports that will be heard from in due time. These committees all contain men who have succeeded in different departments of engineering related to the subjects. The entire work of the committee is under the supervision of the Secretary, Mr. Herbert Wilmerding, with offices at 135 William Street, New York.

THE Copley Society's annual loan exhibition to be held in Boston for a period of three weeks from March 15, will be devoted to the works of Claude Monet, the distinguished French impressionist. Practically all owners of Monets in the United States have contributed generously.



THE Chicago Public has followed a bit of information on its way among the daily papers with results that are certainly amusing if not instructive. The Public suggests the name "journalization" as suited to the process to which facts are subjected by these purveyors of information. A professor, distinguished as an ethnologist, mentioned to his class that a Spanish almanac, translated into Aztec, had been discovered in Mexico, dating about the time of the conquest. The university paper printed the statement without material change or addition; but after making its rounds among the dailies for a time, it turned up in a college town down east in this form:

Prof. ———'s manuscript is a legend of the origin of the turned from Mexico with a manuscript which he hopes will reveal the history and origin of the Aztecs. The Spaniards have long been denounced as vandals for destroying every scrap of the history of the people they could find when they entered Mexico and conducted the conquest. It has been hoped that some scrap of manuscript was still being carefully kept by the Indians which would throw light on their history or traditions. The traditions of the Indians of New Mexico are well told by the Bible * * * . It would not be surprising, if Prof. ———'s manuscript is a legend of the origin of the Aztecs, to find that it runs in channels parallel with Genesis."

While this was going on east of the Mississippi, the "Review" of Boston, for January, gives space to a sheet zinc goddess which it says is "enthusiastically" described locally as "the finest example of metal statuary on exhibition west of the Mississippi river." The Review hopes that such things may not long be possible even "west of the Mississippi;" nor does it appear to be much better pleased with what is going on by the Nile, for after describing what will happen to Philae and its monuments when the new additions are made to the Assouan dam, it berates the Egyptian government for wasting money upon the temples that are to be submerged, speaking of them as if they were to be forever lost, rather than to rise "refreshed, like Aphrodite from the sea" when the waters are drawn off for purposes of irrigation, as one of the enthusiastic engineers of the project predicts.

CEMENT dealers, the more far-seeing of them, are solicitous for the future of concrete building blocks by reason of the tempting suggestions to economy in the use of cement that accompany most of the processes. One or more inventions make it possible to tamp the face of the blocks first with rich stuff and back up with whatever else is desirable, but these processes do not appear to have made headway in the west, if at all. At the late display of cement products in Minneapolis by the association for promoting cement industries, building blocks occupied too much of the space and attention, while the question of their quality occupied too little. When one sees some of the cement building blocks of a former revival, he can't avoid asking whether the difference between \$4.00 cement and \$1.50 cement has changed the nature of contractors sufficiently to insure good blocks now. As if ordinary users of cement could not be tempted into bad enough work by the favoring conditions, we hear every now and then the claim from respectable sources that Portland cement may be mixed with pretty much anything that comes to hand without adverse effects. This is no doubt one of that small but select class of lies that have a curiously unfortunate influence over some people which they cannot resist—just such a lie as takes possession of the occasional citizen and impels him to tell how he has heated his 12-room ramshackle residence and kept all parts thoroughly warm during a northwestern winter with four tons of coal. We have seen reports in print of a 1:10 mixture of cement and cinders that showed most enormous strength. Now, liars of this class never seem to be related to tellers of fish stories, possibly because the latter never do any harm and indeed may do some good in the way of furnishing amusement. But your liar about cement mixtures may not only do great harm to a growing industry, he may also make plenty of trouble for ignorant builders and owners. As everybody knows that has had any experience with cement work, nobody ever saw a good and permanent job of it that was not well made of good materials well proportioned and mixed. There is nothing about cement work that will successfully replace intelligence and thoroughness. And yet, to listen to much that is now talked and published about cement work one would suppose that it is only by the greatest effort that one could fail.



PEOPLE interested in paints and others are bestirring themselves in behalf of untaxed alcohol for use in the arts to such an extent that Washington solons are already preparing some of the curious measures that teem in the nation's capital, and probably give rise to the saying abroad that children, lunatics and the people of the United States are the special wards of Providence. As there is nothing like the alcohol that comes from starchy things as a solvent for certain varnish gums, as a fuel in a small way and for a thousand and one other uses, it seems near the limit of absurdity to tax the article about one thousand per cent of its cost merely because it is also the active principle of "booze." The news teem with the most marvelous scientific discoveries by government experts at

Washington, and if these cannot help our solons to some way of making alcohol for use in the arts undrinkable, the contract labor law might be suspended long enough to import a "German professor." Anxiety about the treasury deficit is among the objections made to granting the relief from the tax asked; but the amount of alcohol now in use in the arts other than in hospitals and schools—where, we believe, it is untaxed—cannot be so large as to help the revenue appreciably; and if that much taxing were discontinued or shifted to the shoulders of quack medicine makers for instance, no grave injustice would be done.

This agitation having reached the newspaper stage naturally brings to the surface plenty of wild statements as to the fuel value of alcohol. Already it has been entered in the lists as a "trust buster" and we are told how it is to make the kerosene kings cut for cover and render the farmer opulent who will produce the tubers from which the new fuel is to be made. But reference to the books does not confirm all that the newspaper scientists tell about this fuel value. Alcohol can probably do more heating, pound for pound, than most forms of carbon, although theoretically not quite its equal in this respect; but when compared with the more volatile petroleum products, we may expect not more than two-thirds the work from the alcohol that we get from the other, while wood alcohol will heat scarcely three-fourths as much as the so-called grain derivative, which is nevertheless a very handy fuel for many small purposes, being very clean, safe and pleasing to smell. As a solvent for certain varnishes alcohol is less important, but there is no sound reason why the building industries should be obliged to pay a tax of 10 or 12 times the original cost of the liquid when needed for this purpose.



NOT many years since one need not go a hundred leagues out on the plains to find regions where to call an enemy a tin-horn gambler was supposed to ruin his standing. Later on it was not necessary to go so far to find audiences before whom one might denounce any one questioning the existing order as a socialist and anarchist and easily remove him beyond the pale of respectability. Respectability having learned later that to call one a socialist and an anarchist was about as logical as to call him a white and an Indian, became content to taboo the critic who was dubbed socialist only. From one end of the land to the other within a year, the public were gravely lectured on the impropriety, the folly and want of patriotism inhering in efforts by the public to undertake in cities any of the public service functions that commonly yield revenue. Lecturers did not declare that the building of schools, bridges, fire engine houses, pavements and their maintenance was perniciously socialistic, but they saw moral and material ruin facing the community who proposed to light its streets, run its street cars or do anything tainted with revenue. The echoes of these warnings have hardly died away before we find a city of the first rank preparing for the election of its life, the issue being the immediate or the postponed ownership of its street railway lines. A great state is going into the lighting business so far as to

refine illuminating oil. A representative and a senator of another state in the clutch of the "merger" agreed to introduce bills in their respective houses calling for a referendum on the question of lending the credit of the state, to building a state railway to control rates on the old lines, but the lynx-eyed lobby succeeded in getting the members to break their promises and the bills never saw the light. Canals which can't be made to pay, the franchises of which private capital would not take along with a big bonus, may be built by the public without accusation of socialism or any other hard name, but railways that pay are different we are told. Indeed it may be hard to find an acceptable name for these enterprises which the public seem bound to take up. But if in this country, as in some of the effete monarchies of the old world, the public once gets a taste of steam railway or trolley rates based on a reasonable income on the investment, plus operating expenses and depletion; rates that do not carry vast watery capitalization, parasitic corporations and official pickings, the same public will perhaps care less what the new way is named. When communities are relieved from supporting traction magnates in the present imperial style, they may find it easier to build good schools, make good roads, beautiful walls and parks, and do other things that do not produce direct revenue.



MINNEAPOLIS Plumbers are out for an increase in wages, which action is well enough of itself—good wages good salaries and good service are all things to be desired, and the advance asked, 50c per day, is perhaps no more than an offset for the smaller purchasing power of money in these times—but, along with this demand for an increase, are conditions, not all new, which are not in the interest of good service, but quite the contrary. Indeed, to a person at all versed in building, the extracts which we publish with this, appears very much as a "hold-up." He is involuntarily reminded of a scene in a late number of "Life" wherein a select party gather around a dim fire in the forest to answer the question: "Has anybody anything left that we want?" In the uncertain light one fancies he sees some of our great tariff and traction magnates, and after reading these "articles" he wonders if the plumbers who constituted them were not also in the gathering.

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ARTICLE 13.

No bicycles shall be ridden during the working hours herein specified.

ARTICLE 14.

Under no condition will members of this local, work in any shop employing an apprentice.

ARTICLE 15.

Members finding it necessary to call at shops on any business relating to their work shall do so during the regular working hours.

ARTICLE 18.

No member shall work in any shop where more than one master plumber handles tools, and said master to be designated as the one who is to handle the tools.

ARTICLE 22.

In shops where three or more plumbers are employed, a gas fitter shall be employed to do all gas fitting coming into that shop.

ARTICLE 24.

Under no conditions shall a member of this local start or construct any special permit plumbing work without first notifying the business agent of the Union.

Contracting plumbers at this writing seem to be of the opinion that the terms of the "Local" will be accepted, and their acquiescence is no great credit to them. As to the public who want building, their contributions to the plumbing fraternity through union rules and city ordinances are about as indirect and little understood as their contributions to the tariff lords, so that the plumbers are probably safe from this source; but there are already signs that this condition may have a time limit. The contractors may tire of these articles, as St. Paul contractors did recently, and already a trade school is advertised as offering to turn out skilled plumbers at so much per.

These articles will be very apt to breed non-union shops.



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Balcony and Doorway, City of Mexico

*THE RELATIONS OF SPECIALISTS TO ARCHITECTS.

By EDGAR V. SEELER.

In attempting to discuss the relations of specialists to architects, a difficulty at once presents itself in the varying factors of the professional equipment of the architect, the personal qualifications of both the architect and the specialist, as well as in the particular work which the specialist is called upon to do.

An architect of large and constant practice can afford to have complete or approximately complete provisions in his own office, for every department of work covered by his practice. This is necessarily an expensive service to maintain, but the conditions are ideal for the execution of the best work. In such a case the controlling head employs only such specialists as assistants, who will do his bidding in their relatively subordinate places, or whose independent work can be relied upon to conform to the known traditions of the office. It is possible also that the designers in the more purely architectural departments be given a general oversight of the allied departments. Offices of this importance, however, are extremely few.

There is a second and larger class of offices, in which the conditions of American practice warrant the maintenance of a construction department, equal to the special as well as ordinary problems of steel skeleton and heavy building, in addition to the necessary departments of design. The constructive engineer is generally capable of dealing with the mechanical problems of heating and ventilation, power plants and electrical installations.

But by far the largest class is obliged to have not only the problems of special construction and mechanical engineering solved by specialists employed temporarily, but, in common with the second class, also problems of sanitation, landscaping, interior decoration, models of ornament and such other work as general practice implies. In this class the smaller the practice, the greater is the difficulty of securing the assent of the client to the extra fee which the employment of the specialist necessitates, and, it may be added, the greater the difficulty of the architect to secure a satisfactory specialist.

With the growing importance of the specialist, the acknowledgement that he has come to be a necessity, emphasized by such statements as that in the Schedule, which provides that his services are to be paid for by the owner in addition to the fee paid the architect, contains a germ of harm to the best interests of the architect, in so far as it encourages too great independence on the part of the specialist. For the prime requisite toward the ultimate success of any building is that the architect, either in person or by a responsible deputy, shall be in full control of every individual item which goes to make his building a complete whole.

It may be generally admitted that the engineering specialists are much more tractable as associates than those specialists whose work requires a more definite artistic sense. Capable engineers are numerous, and they

have no sentiment of hurt pride in admitting that they know little of art.

It is also probably true, on the other hand, that the artist's distaste for engineering makes it easier for the engineer to accomplish his purpose, so that in designing, the architect is more willing to make concessions to the engineer, or to meet him half way, than if the engineer presumed beyond his true sphere. The architect comes to know after very little experience that heat flues, steam pipes, electric conduits, plumbing lines, demand space for their proper operation, and he allows for them, even though vaguely.

Again, it must be remembered that the engineer expert, whatever his particular branch, is not always capable of determining just what is meant by plans, nor seizing at once the particular object which the architect wishes to accomplish. If the engineer is lazy or set in his ways, he is prone not to devote any more time to such work than is actually necessary to accomplish his own results, irrespective of their artistic merits.

The architect, therefore, (and it cannot be urged too strongly) must in self-defense exercise a close supervision over the work of the engineering expert. He will require tact and persistency, in order to get the most out of the ingenuity which the engineering expert frequently possesses. He must, in every case, have it definitely understood that no work in those departments is to be finally determined without reference to him for its ultimate effect in the sum total of his building.

The landscape architect, the interior decorator, the glass designer, being men in whom the artistic sense is indispensable, are perhaps the most difficult of all to control; the more so that their functions are in many ways as important as that of the architect himself. Fortunately, these experts are much less fractious now than they were ten years ago, but the lack in each is usually due to a misapprehension of the relation which his work should bear to the building of which it is an adjunct.

It is a pity to have to admit that many architects do not consider the setting of their buildings, nor the treatment of interiors as an integral part of their design. It is a greater pity that many architects are not qualified to determine such questions. For such architects little respect can be expected from the specialist. The architect is of no help to him, and is not sensitive enough to appreciate the work of the specialist. The incentive to the best effort is absent.

On the other hand, where an architect has mastered, if only in a general way, the principles of good design, where he has a clear conception of his completed work, he should have no difficulty in modestly but firmly impressing his convictions upon the specialist.

The term "landscape architect" is an anomaly. The chief service of the landscape architect—since it seems to be the only term available—is to apply his knowledge of planting, of the growth, form and color of vegetable life, to the details of the general scheme of grounds or setting, which has been correlated to the building and developed in its architectural parts by the architect himself. The

*Paper read at 35th annual convention A. I. A., Washington, D. C.

landscape architect should not be called upon to determine whether gardens shall be sunken or raised; whether walls, mass and design or another, of one material or another; whether the formal garden shall be in this axis or that, or off axis altogether; these are the duty of the architect. The service of the landscape architect should mean advice in the choice of plants, in the relative value of trees, shrubbery and vines, in the planting of lawns and hedges, and in those items which are the result of special study and intimate living nature.

Regarding the interior decorator, there is no possible slaughter worse than that he can accomplish, and usually does accomplish with an otherwise harmless if not entirely wholesome architectural interior. And with the interior decorator may almost be classed, in ruthless disregard of architectural principles, the artist of eminence to whom is entrusted the picture panels. Puviss de Chavannes is almost the only modern who has realized the dignity of his work, and it is an open question whether, in the one or two examples of his work which we have the good for-balustrades, dials, and such accessories shall be of one tune to possess in America, he would not have changed its color scheme could he have seen its surroundings in advance.

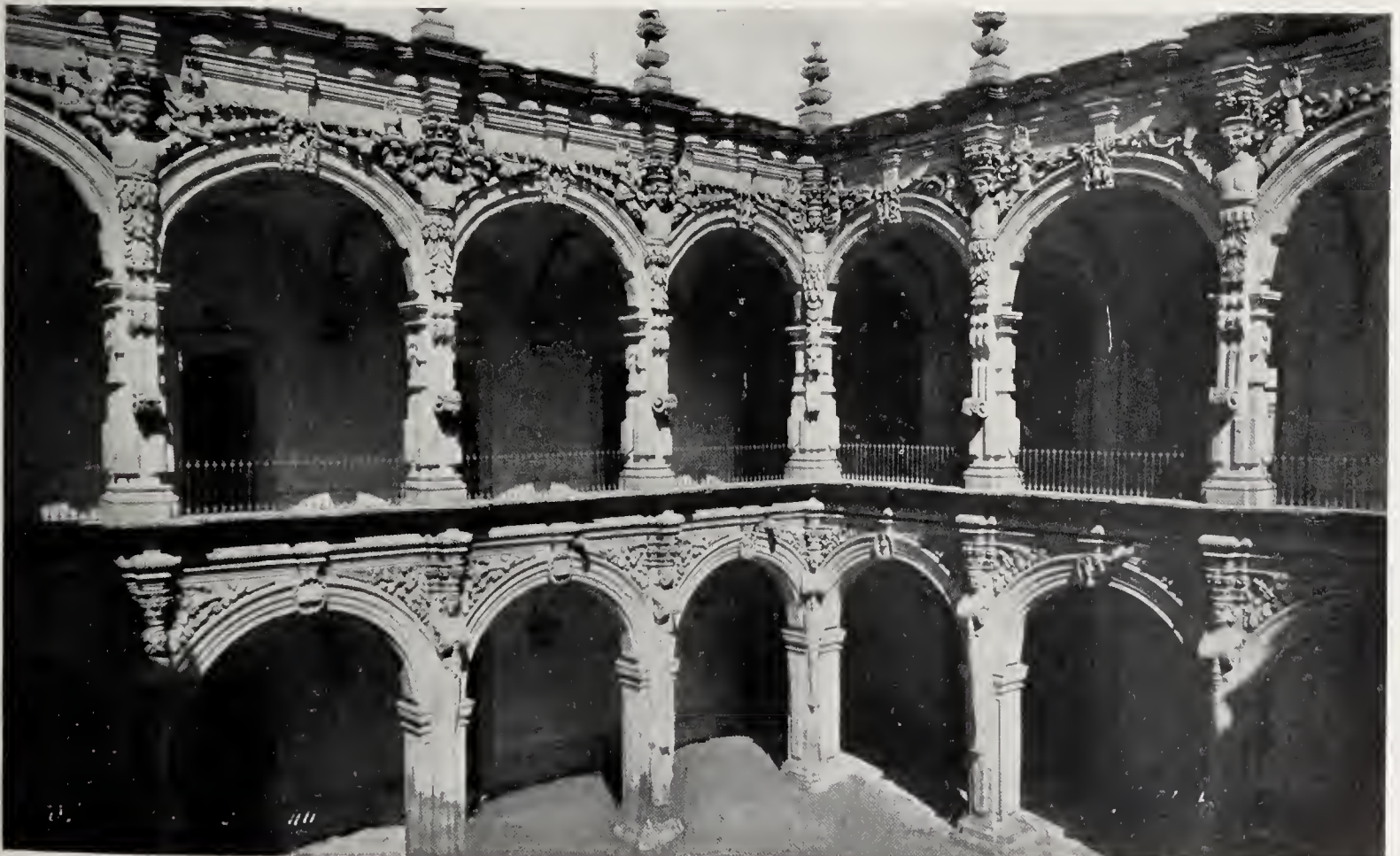
Of designers in glass and mosaic, how many can be trusted undirected with a work of importance, without the risk of their introducing an irrelevant style or an in-harmonious color note?

The only guarantee of the perfect working out of these various parts in the make-up of a building lies, first, in the education of the architect whereby he himself is competent to conceive, to express and to execute, or to

(Continued on Page 8.)

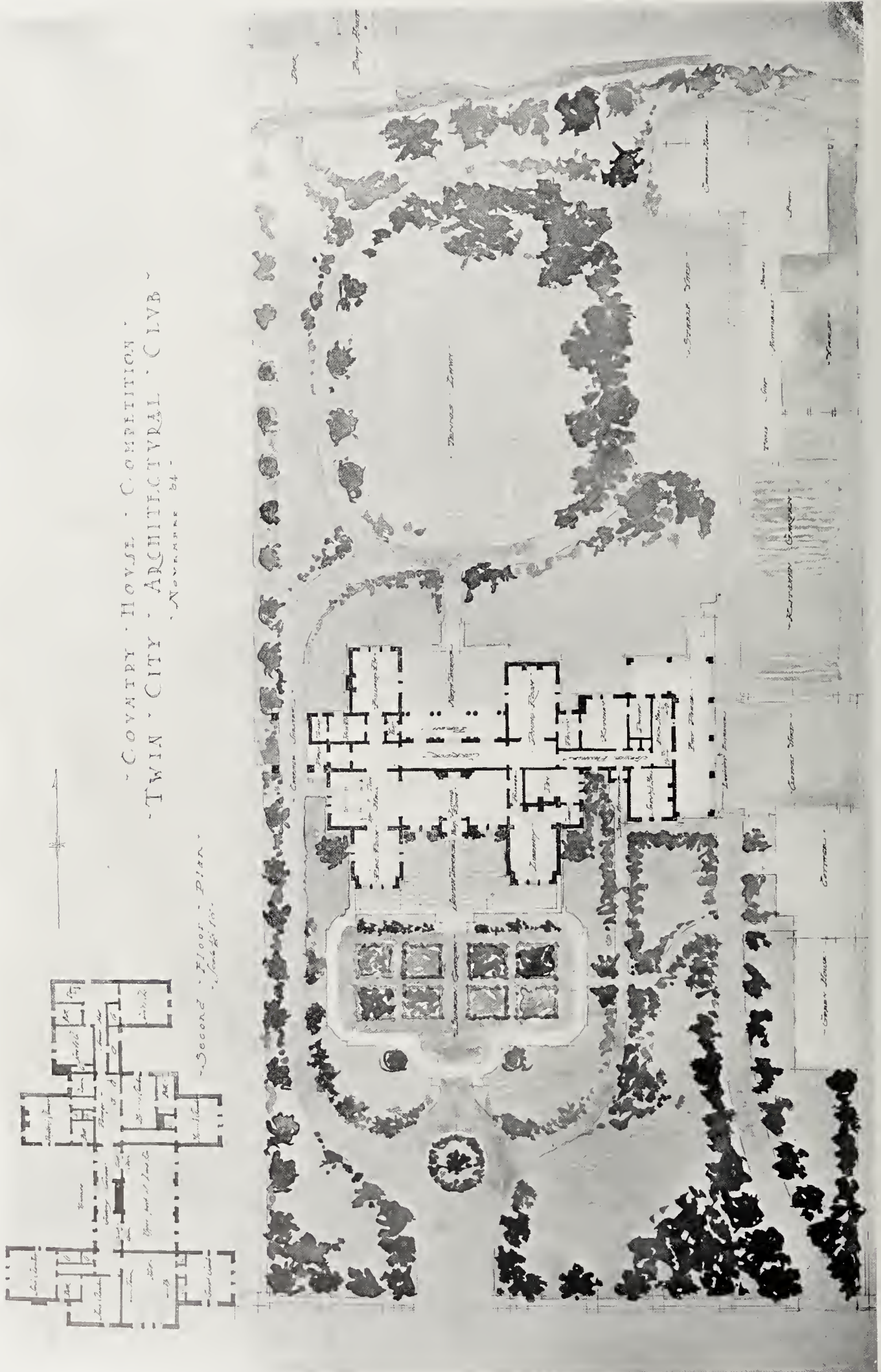


Government Building, Queretaro, Mexico



Unique Detail Work—Government Building, Queretaro, Mexico

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GROUNDS AND FLOOR PLAN TO FIRST PRIZE DESIGN—TWIN CITY ARCHITECTURAL CLUB—COUNTRY HOUSE COMPETITION

By Thomas A. Cresswell, St. Paul, Minn.



FRONT ELEVATION
COUNTRY HOUSE COMPETITION
TWIN CITY ARCHITECTURAL CLUB
NOVEMBER 1904

FIRST PRIZE DESIGN COUNTRY HOUSE COMPETITION, TWIN CITY ARCHITECTURAL CLUB, NOVEMBER, 1904
By Thomas A. Cresswell, St. Paul, Minn.

select from around him those who can do so; and, second, in the untiring supervision of his executants.

An interesting side of all this is that the intelligent specialist, whatever his work, is usually willing and desirous that general lines shall be laid down for him. He knows that his work gains in dignity, grows more interesting in variety, and helps more in the accomplishment of a unified result than would be possible under any other circumstances.

There is no reason in the world, other than deficiency of some sort on the part of the architect, why the architect and the specialist should not work side by side in entire harmony under the acknowledged leadership of the architect and the willing acquiescence of the specialist.

HOUSES BUILT ABOUT A CIRCLE.

One of the most interesting building enterprises recently projected in Salt Lake City involves the erection of 24 attractive houses on a block at the crown of First Street Hill. The idea is to build the rooms in the form of a circle, fronting on a beautiful park in the center. Opening into this park will be private entrances, so that the public will be excluded and all the pleasures of the place reserved for the occupants of the rooms on the block. The building improvement is estimated to involve an expenditure of not less than \$150,000, and it is expected that the enterprise will prove one of the attractions of the city. The ground upon which the improvement is to be made is historical, it having been set apart in the early days by Brigham Young as the site for a theological seminary for the Mormon Church.

THE DECAY OF STONE IN BUILDINGS.

The above caption formed the subject of an able paper recently read before the Royal Philosophical Society of Glasgow by Dr. R. M. Buchanan, city bacteriologist of Glasgow. Giving the results of a long and painstaking investigation, he declared that the generally received theories which account for the destruction of stone through the influences of the acids contained in the air, are entirely inadequate to meet the case. He has found that the decay very frequently begins in the ground and extends upward as far as the moisture extends. This form of decay he declared to be common where, from any cause, the stone is kept wet. Bacteriologically examined, some specimens of decayed stone were found to contain some species of organism capable of evolving sulphureted hydrogen. He advanced the theory that these might well set up chemical changes that account for a large portion of the observed decay. This paper will doubtless lead to further and more sweeping investigations.

TIMBER AT PORTLAND FAIR.

The logs to be used in the construction of the forestry building of the 1905 fair have reached the grounds and were put into Guild's lake in good condition. There are 300 of these immense sticks, which average 60 feet in length and five feet in diameter, with the bark on. They came from the forests near Clatskanie, in Columbia county, and many of them weigh 25 tons each.—Portland Oregonian.



Fountain—City of Mexico

GIVE THE PAINTER PLENTY OF TIME.

BY C. S. CHAPMAN.

In all contests, the winner succeeds because he is able to do his best work at "the finish." To this end every precaution is taken that the "home stretch" be cleared and no possible obstruction allowed to remain to hinder or annoy. The same should be true regarding "the finish" of a building.

Most buildings have their foundations laid with great deliberation, and it is well. The construction often progresses with painstaking slowness and no protest is entered, but when the home stretch is reached and "the finish" commenced, then, too often, obstacles of great annoyance are thrust in the way.

In case of both the race and the building, the finish is of the greatest importance. It is that part of a residence that is noticed most that should be as near perfect as is possible to make it. So much depends upon the finisher, that he should be carefully selected and given every opportunity to accomplish his task properly. The man superintending the construction should see to it that he be not, in any way, annoyed or hindered. Especially should he be allowed sufficient time in which to properly do the work.

One of the most exasperating experiences of a varnisher, is to have the owner put in an appearance immediately upon his beginning his work, and demanding that he be given possession of the house "next Thursday." He suggests that the second coat of varnish be put on immediately, when the painter knows very well that the first coat is not yet dry. Then, he can see no reason why the last coat cannot be rubbed the following day, so he can move in at the self-appointed time.

As all varnish men and painters know, varnish must have time to thoroughly set or an unsatisfactory job is the result. Therefore, we protest against every encroachment upon the "finisher in the homestretch." Let the architect or superintendent see to it that the best material is used and ample time allowed for its proper application.

Mr. Guy Dawber, in an address in England, said that he would go so far as to say that plaster work outside of houses might be introduced into towns and cities. It was only in the last hundred years that the art of plastering had become degraded to its present level—so much so, that when they mentioned plaster and stucco to people they were met with contempt. In Austria there were towns in which all the houses were done in painted and colored plaster, and the effect was most charming. The difference between that work and our work of the last hundred years was, that in Austria, plaster had been treated as a plastic material, whereas we endeavored to treat it to look like stone, which rightly enough brought it into contempt with both architects and the public.

At the end of the last fiscal year the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America had a membership of 191,205, an increase of 45,000 since the Atlanta convention.



Waite Photo

Fountain at End of Aqueduct, City of Mexico

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE.

In the Architectural Record of January, Elmer Grey, in writing of the architecture of Southern California, says: "The ornamental forms of the mission style may be and are applied to plans of almost any kind, but that does not make mission buildings. Ornament is not style, a fact that can scarcely be too often brought to our minds. Style is made up of the inherent quality in a building occasioned by its plan, by its site, by local building materials, by the life that goes on within its walls, and only partially by the ornament afterward tacked upon it. California is rampant with buildings that have borrowed the mission ornament but not its spirit, and, roughly speaking, they constitute the deadly uninteresting class of buildings that are without personality, and are even of questionable harmlessness.

"Mission style aside, the greatest fault that can be found with the architecture of Southern California is that which may be found with all American architecture to a greater or less extent, namely, a lack of simplicity. There is too much airing of architectural knowledge, and too much application of architectural features to places where they do not belong. Wm. M. Hunt once advised his pupils to learn thoroughly the technique of their art, and then to forget it, that they might not be hampered by the application of its rules. It would be better if more of our architectural problems were worked out with less attention to architectural formulæ and architectural theory, and with greater attempts to solve practical needs in the simplest and most appropriate way. The public is not interested in the clock-work of architecture, but wishes to read its correct time; and the buildings are legion in America that architectural wheels and cogs scattered over their exteriors with entire disregard for their fitness in the place."

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S ADDRESS AT THE A. I. A. MEETING, AT WASHINGTON, D. C., JANUARY 11, 1905.

"It is a great pleasure to have the chance of coming here this evening and saying a word of greeting to a body of men who are engaged in doing work for this republic which is to count not merely in the present generation, but during the lifetimes of many generations to come. We hear a great deal said about true Americanism. Now the real American, the American whom it is worth while to call such, is the man whose belief in and work for America are not merely for the America of today, but for the America of the future.

"It is a comparatively easy thing to do work when the reward is to come in the present; but every great nation that has ever existed on this globe, has been great because its sons had in them the capacity to work for the well-being of generations yet unborn. Such a spirit is peculiarly necessary when the work that we desire to have done is essentially work of a non-remunerative type, non-remunerative in more than one way; non-remunerative in money, and it may be in fame. We do not know the names of the architects and builders of the great cathedrals whose magnificent bodies are an heirloom to civilization. We do not know the names of the builders of the great majority of the works to which every man with any inspiration after beauty naturally turns when he thinks of the past. We owe that beauty, we owe the elevation of thought, of mind and soul that come with association and belief in it to the fact that there were a sufficient number of men who worked in the spirit that Ruskin prayed in—the spirit of doing work not for the sake of the fame, but for the sake of the work itself.

"There are things in a nation's life more important than beauty, but beauty is very important. And in this nation of ours, while there is very much in which we have succeeded marvelously, I do not think that, if we looked dispassionately, we will say that beauty has been exactly the strong point. It rests largely with gatherings such as this, with the note that is set by such men as those I am addressing tonight, to determine whether or not this shall be true of the future.

"A very large percentage of the durable work, the work which is lasting, must be done by the government. Great buildings and beautiful buildings will be erected by private subscription; but many of the grandest buildings must necessarily be erected by the government, national, state or municipal.

"Those in control of any branch of that government necessarily have but an ephemeral lease of power. Administration succeeds administration; congress succeeds congress; legislature succeeds legislature, and even if all of the administrations, all of the congresses, are actuated (a not necessarily probable supposition) by an artistic spirit, it would still remain true that there could not be a coherence of their work if they had to rely on themselves alone. The best thing that any ad-

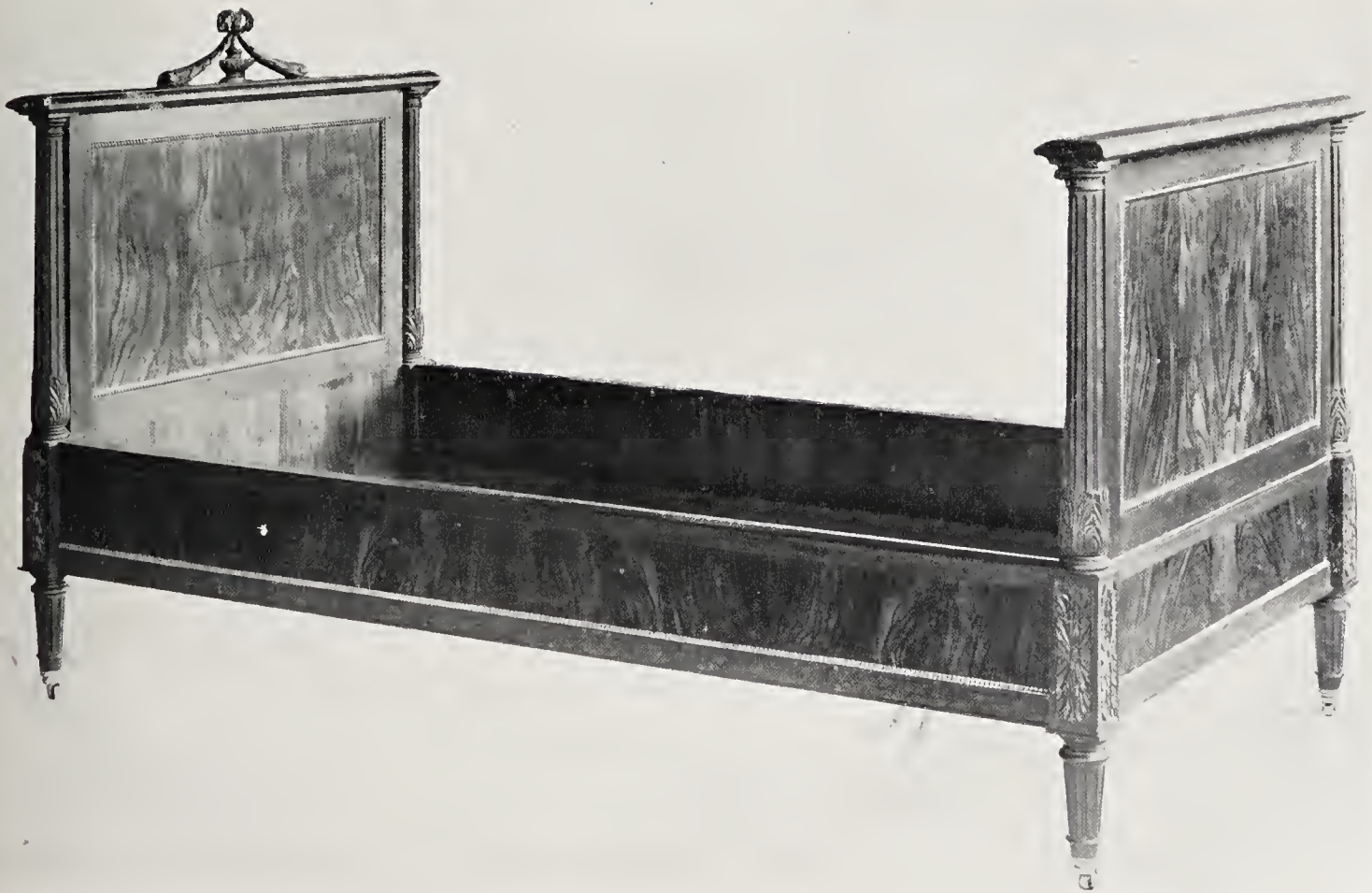
ministration, that any executive department of the government, can do and—if I may venture to make any suggestion to a co-ordinate branch, Senator Cockrell—I would say that the best thing that any elective legislative body could do, is in these matters to surrender itself within reasonable limits to the guidance of those who really do know what they are talking about.

"The only way in which we can hope to have worthy artistic work done for the nation, or for a state, or for a municipality is by having such a growth of popular sentiment as will render it incumbent upon successive administrations, successive legislative bodies, to carry out steadily a plan chosen for them, worked out for them by such a body of men as that gathered here this evening. What I have said does not mean that we shall go here in Washington, for instance, into immediate and extravagant expenditures on public buildings. All that it means is, that whenever hereafter a public building is provided for and erected, it should be erected in accordance with a carefully thought out plan adopted long before, and that it should be not only beautiful in itself, but fitting in its relations to the whole scheme of the public buildings, the parks, the drives of the district.

"Working through municipal commissions, very great progress has already been made in rendering more beautiful our cities from New York to San Francisco. An incredible amount remains to be done. But a beginning has been made, and now I most earnestly hope that in the National Capitol a better beginning will be made than anywhere else, and that can be made only by utilizing to the fullest degree the thought and the disinterested effort of the architects, the artists, the men of art, who stand foremost in their professions here in the United States, and who ask no other reward, save the reward of feeling that they have done their full part to make as beautiful as it should be the Capital City of the great republic."

The twenty-first annual convention of the International Association of Master House Painters and Decorators of the United States and Canada opened in Milwaukee last month with about 400 delegates in attendance. Routine business took up most of the time of the first session. The question of apprentices was thoroughly discussed. John M. Stiles, of Chicago, and Thomas G. William of Baltimore, read papers. H. Frank Reed, chairman of the committee on the "color tests," made a report.

Mr. Cass Gilbert, of St. Paul and New York, won the competition for the new Wisconsin state capitol building, getting the first prize of \$2,000 on design submitted. Koch & Son and Ferry & Class, of Milwaukee, took second and third prizes respectively. By this decision, Mr. Gilbert is supposed to get the contract to supervise the construction of the building, which will probably cost about \$8,000,000 when completed.



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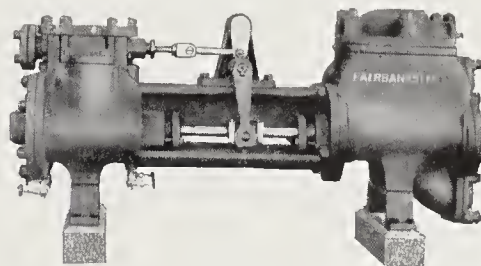


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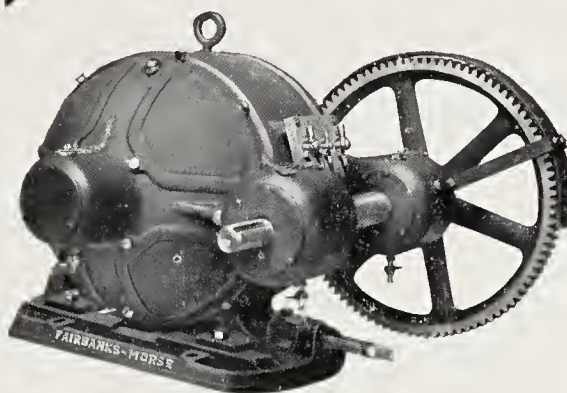
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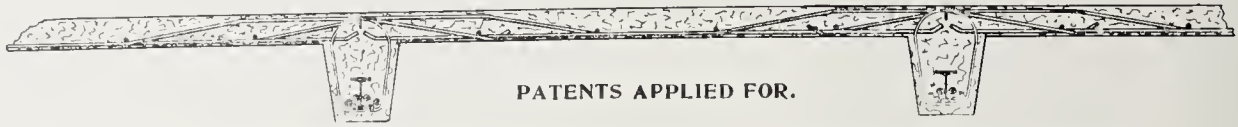
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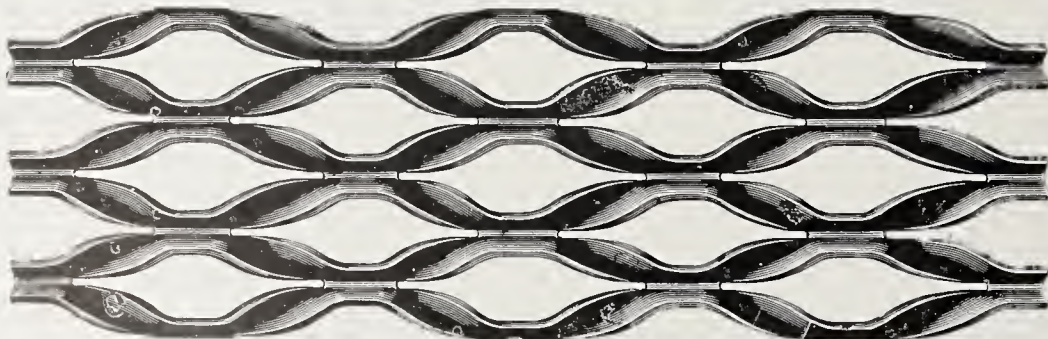
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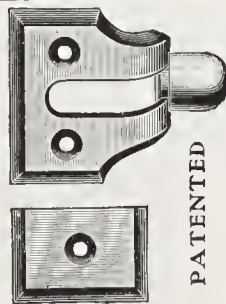
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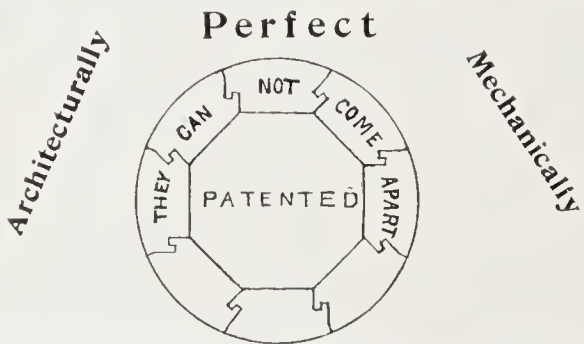
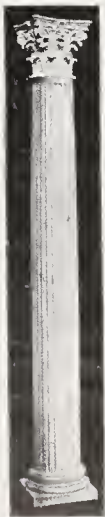
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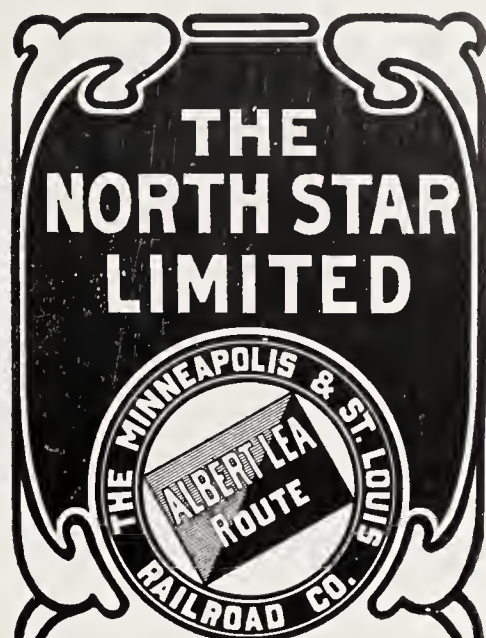
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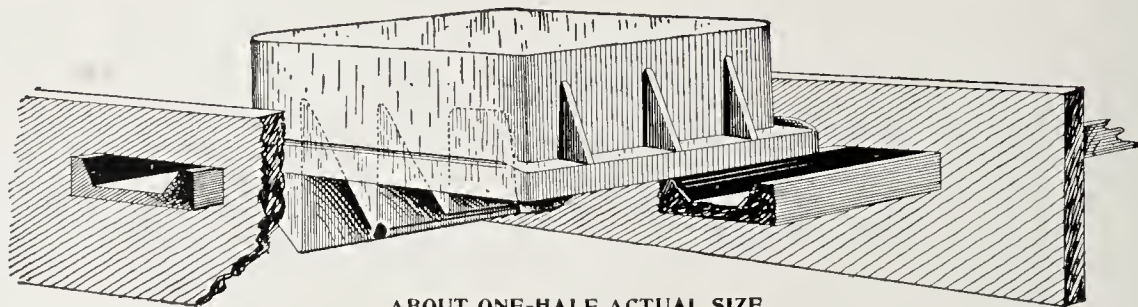
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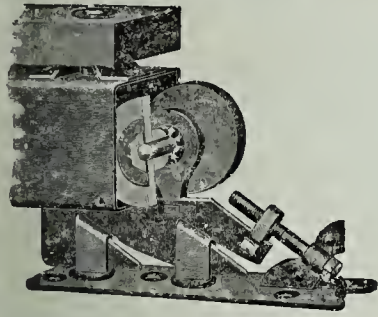
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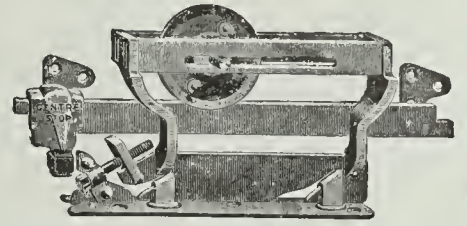
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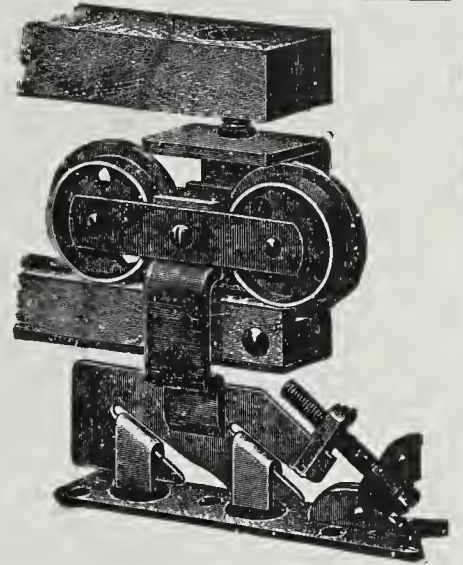
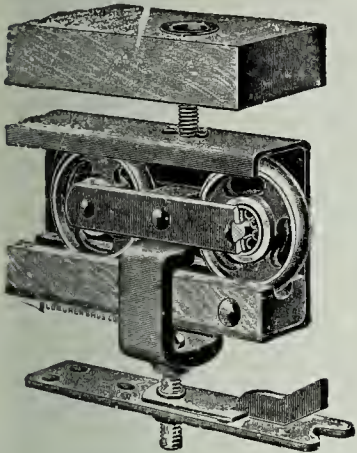


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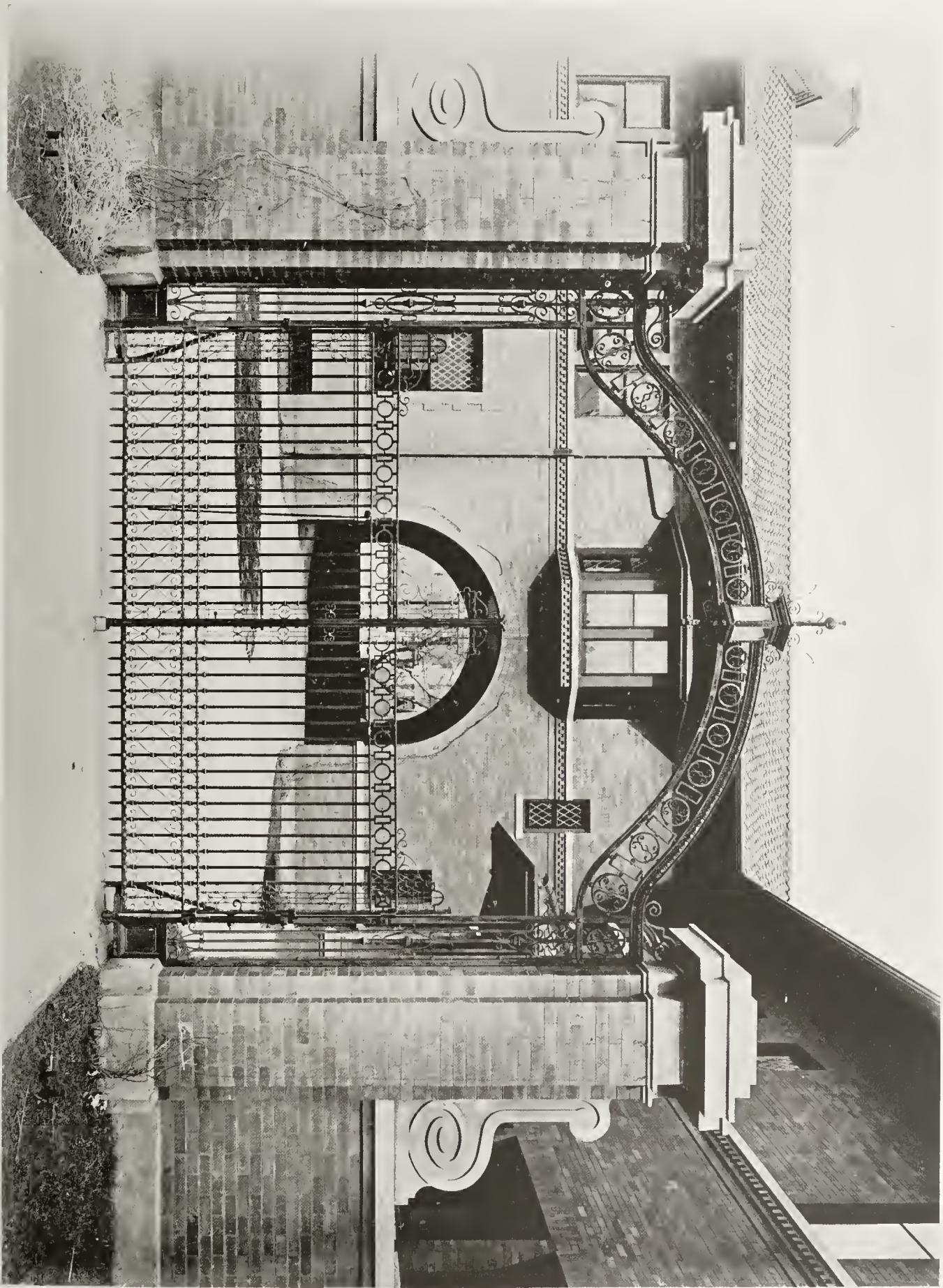
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Ernest Kennedy, Architect, Minneapolis

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